UNIVERSITY OF CAMBRIDGE INTERNATIONAL EXAMINATIONS
International General Certificate of Secondary Education

FIRST LANGUAGE ENGLISH **0500/32**

Paper 3 Directed Writing and Composition **May/June 2011**

2 hours

Additional Materials: Answer Booklet/Paper

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READ THESE INSTRUCTIONS FIRST

If you have been given an Answer Booklet, follow the instructions on the front cover of the Booklet.
Write your Centre number, candidate number and name on all the work you hand in.
Write in dark blue or black pen.
Do **not** use staples, paper clips, highlighters, glue or correction fluid.

Answer **two** questions: **Question 1 (Section 1)** and **one** question from **Section 2**.
Dictionaries are **not** permitted.

At the end of the examination, fasten all your work securely together.
The number of marks is given in brackets [ ] at the end of each question or part question.
All questions in this paper carry equal marks.

This document consists of **4** printed pages.

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Section 1: Directed writing

1 Read the following transcript of a radio broadcast in which Mr Sandip Patel, who campaigns against the use of cell phones, gives his views on the topic.

Write a letter to Mr Patel in which you comment on his views on the use of cell phones.

In your letter you should:

- examine the points Mr Patel makes;
- examine the ideas raised by the interviewer;
- give your own view and develop your arguments.

Begin your letter, 'Dear Mr Patel…'.

Base your letter on the ideas found in the transcript and be careful to use your own words.

You should write between 1½ and 2 sides, allowing for the size of your handwriting.

Up to ten marks are available for the content of your answer and up to fifteen marks for the quality of your writing.

[25]

Interviewer: We welcome Sandip Patel who is here today to give us his views on the use of cell phones.

Sandip Patel: Yes, well I suppose I'm just about the only person who doesn't own one of the things. You see it's all out of control – the number of calls has risen out of all proportion to their necessity, and as for texting, well it never stops. It takes everyone's attention away from the important things in life – and now people are becoming neurotic. They get upset if they do not get messages and afraid that they will miss them. They spend all day clutching their phones waiting for them to scream for attention.

You see, it's anti social. You're in the middle of an intimate conversation with someone, perhaps over a romantic meal, and the wretched thing starts to ring. Your companion walks into a corner without so much as an 'excuse me'. Worse still, they chat away while still giving you half a smile, or they peer into those awful little screens trying to read a text.

Interviewer: Yes, but you must agree that cell phones are invaluable if your car breaks down or you are delayed in traffic.

Sandip Patel: I don't deny that for a minute. What I'm saying is that their misuse outweighs their usefulness. A significant percentage of road deaths are caused by motorists making phone calls and not concentrating on their driving. How does that compare with being late for meetings?

Interviewer: Cell phones are vital for keeping in touch with your children and knowing where they are.

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Sandip Patel: There again the usefulness is outweighed by the nuisance value. Kids bring cell phones into school simply to cause distractions. Whatever the school rules, they text away instead of listening to teachers and focusing on lessons. I've heard of pupils texting friends in the same classroom – it's ridiculous!

While we're talking about education, how do you think texting affects children's spelling? I'm told that teachers are so used to seeing the letter 'u' instead of the pronoun 'you' that they don't bother to correct it any more.

Interviewer: I see your point. Yet in Africa, where there may be no telephone land lines, it's a relatively cheap way of contacting friends and family who may be in another African state. Cell phones have revolutionised communication.

Sandip Patel: I wouldn't mind if this communication were disciplined. Instead it's an invasion of privacy, peace and solitude. When you're on a train, you have to listen to some man telling his wife he'll arrive at five and she must be waiting for him with the car. And those ghastly ring tones, so sudden and intrusive. I know someone whose ring tone is a child screaming with laughter. It gives you headaches. And if you walk along a dark street at night and you hear a voice in a doorway, it scares you. So it's only a phone call, but it might be a villain about to attack.

Interviewer: Conversely, cell phones can be very useful in solving crime.

Sandip Patel: And they also destroy our privacy. I don't want anyone listening to my phone calls or using the information against me. And I don't want people to know where I've been; they can trace my movements by the phone calls I make. Very useful for snooping private detectives! It's just another example of the invasion of our privacy. Anyone could pick up my phone and listen to my messages.

Interviewer: So you'd rather be without a cell phone, Sandip?

Sandip Patel: I would indeed. I don't want my brain pickled by radiation and my eyes strained through peering into tiny screens. I don't want my boss to get hold of me at any hour of the day or night. You need time to relax and forget about work sometimes. Nor do I want to look silly, walking around clutching my ear as if I'd just been stung. If you want to see people looking really silly, go to a conference of cell phone managers and watch them during the coffee break. You'll soon see what I mean.

[Turn over for Section 2]

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Section 2: Composition

Write about 350–450 words on **one** of the following:

Argumentative/discursive writing

2 **(a)** Most people prefer to live in their own country, but some want to emigrate to another country. Say where you would like to live and explain your reasons. [25]

OR

(b) 'It's best to be an adult. Adults have everything their own way.' Argue for or against this statement. [25]

Descriptive writing

3 **(a)** Describe the scene and atmosphere when you visit a theme park or fairground. [25]

OR

(b) Describe your surroundings before and after a sudden change in the weather. [25]

Narrative writing

4 **(a)** Write a story that begins with these words: 'Finally, the great day dawned.' [25]

OR

(b) You wake up, look out of your window, and discover that something has happened during the night which has totally changed the area around your house. Write about what happens. [25]

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